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In the west production of gypsum is not very great, but a number of states, especially Oklahoma, Wyoming, Utah, Nevada, California, and New Mexico have large reserves. The Wyoming deposits are found in the Embar (Permian), Chugwater (Permian or Triassic), and Spearfish (Triassic) formations. The deposits are in the Red Beds.

In California the most promising deposits are south of San Francisco Bay, associated with Tertiary and Pleistocene formations. The most valuable are of the gypsite variety. Many of them lie on the side of knobs or ridges. The deposits are due to the ground water being drawn to the surface and evaporating, leaving behind its load of gypsum acquired from the underlying rocks. There are two other forms of deposits in the California districts, intermittent lake deposits and interbedded deposits.

In New Mexico there are large deposits of gypsum which have been developed but little. They occur as bedded deposits in the Manzana group of the Pennsylvanian and in the Wingate Sandstone of the Jurassic. In the top of the latter there is a bed 100 feet thick. Gypsum also occurs as surface crusts due to evaporation at the surface, and as dunes, the material being derived from such crusts. The dunes are in the Tulurosa Desert and cover an area of 270 square miles. The gypsum from the dunes is used to a slight extent.

F. P. S.

Geology of Webster County and a Portion of Mingo District, Randolph County, South of Valley Fork of Elk River. By DAVID B. BEGER. West Virginia Geological Survey, 1920. Pp. 682, pls. 35, figs. 24, maps 2.

Webster County lies in the Cumberland Plateau, the westernmost division of the Appalachian province. The topography is characterized by deep valleys cut into an old peneplain, the relief varying from 500 to 1,000 feet. The structure is a gently southeastward dipping monocline with some minor folds. The stratigraphic range includes beds of the Upper Mississippian and Pennsylvanian. The Allegheny, and the Kanawha and New River groups of the Pottsville, form the greater part of the surface outcrops, the Monongahela having been entirely stripped off and the Conemaugh mostly. Mississippian formations, represented by the Mauch Chunk shales, of continental origin, and the Green Brier limestone, outcrop only in some of the deeper valleys of the county and in the included portion of Randolph County. The latter is remarkable for its profusion of marine forms. Devonian beds are known only from deep-well records.

The area under consideration lies to the southeast of the main proved oil and gas belt of the state. Six deep tests showed no oil and but four of them gas. It is to be noted, however, that not one of the six was drilled on a favorable structure.

Webster County, although possessing an immense amount of good coal, has but little commercial mining and no coke production. There are nineteen coal beds that appear to be workable commercially. The author estimates that the total recoverable tonnage present is about 5,144,000,000 tons.

Other minor resources include the following: (1) unutilized water power; (2) iron ore (possibly); (3) clay, not extensively utilized; (4) limestone the Hinton member of the Mauch Chunk and the Green Brier limestone; and (5) sandstone, suitable for building purposes in both the Pennsylvanian and Mauch Chunk.

The portion of the report devoted to paleontology includes some notes by W. Armstrong on invertebrate fossils from the Pottsville series. The following contributions are made:

1. "The Maximum Size of West Virginia Derbyas as Influenced by Sediments." The author concludes that the largest specimens of each species are to be found in the light-colored shales and the purer argillaceous limestones, the smallest in the fine black sediments.

2. "An Example of Shell Regeneration in Derbya crassa." This is an instance of abnormal shell growth repairing a probable break in the shell during the life of the animal.

3. "Notes on the Correlation of Certain Fossiliferous Members of the Pottsville Series." A discussion of the present uncertain status of the question is given. Some faunal lists are included.

4. "Fossiliferous Shale Beds in the Rowlesburg Section."

5. "Invertebrate Fossils Collected from the Pottsville Series of Webster County." In general the Pottsville of West Virginia shows three faunal types, a normal marine type, a restricted marine type, and a fresh-water type. Thirty-two species are listed, of which twenty-three are described and a number figured.

A. C. McF.

Bulletin No. 36, Illinois State Geological Survey. Yearbook for 1916, consisting of administrative report, and economic and geologic papers. Pp. 188, figs. 7, pls. 16, tables 33.

The report consists of four papers, the first of which is the administrative report of F. W. De Wolf, state geologist, for 1916. In Part II by N. O. Barrett, on the mineral resources of the state in 1916, the